

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 21, 2006, which set a three-month period for response, making this amendment due by December 21, 2006.

Claims 1, 4-5, and 9, 11-13, and 15-19 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,437,368 to Mikels. Claims 1, 2, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,705,464 to Yang. Claims 1, 3-5, 12, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 572,061 to Newton. Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newton in view of Official Notice. Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newton. Claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newton in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,976,374 to Macaluso. Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 6, 8-11, and 13 if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the present amendment, the specification was amended to add a cross reference to the related priority document.

In light of the allowance of claims 6, 8-11, and 13, claim 1 was amended to add the features of claims 2, 3, and allowed claim 6. Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8 all were canceled. Claims 10 and 14 also were canceled, thus obviating the objection to the drawings.

In addition, the claims were amended to address the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph. Claim 1 was further amended to change "is attached" to "may be attached" in lines 2-3, as proposed by the Examiner to address the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment addresses all of the formal matters raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Because amended claim 1 includes the features of allowable claims 6, claim 1 now stands in condition for allowance, along with claims 4, 5, and 9-19. Action to this end is courteously solicited.

Should there be any remaining matters to resolve prior to the granting of an allowance in this case, the undersigned attorney for the Applicant would very much welcome a telephone call from the Examiner in order to discuss those issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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